



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Lawrence R. Fontaine et al Confirmation No.:
Serial No.: 09/727,744 Examiner: Li, Aimee J.
Filed: December 1, 2000 Group Art Unit: 2183
For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR PROCESSING CONDITIONAL
BRANCH INSTRUCTIONS IN A PIPELINE ARCHITECTURE
Docket No.: RA 5312 (1028.1132101)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.10: The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper or papers, as described herein, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" having an Express Mail mailing label number of: EV426644335US in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 7th day of July, 2004.

By Lynn Thompson
Lynn Thompson

Dear Sir or Madame,

This amendment is being filed in response to the final office action dated April 7, 2004, setting a three-month statutory deadline to respond of July 7, 2004. *This Preliminary Amendment assumes that the Amendment-After-Final filed on June 16, 2004, has not been entered.* Reconsideration, reexamination and allowance of all pending claims are respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.